

## IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

APRIL 15, 1822.

The Committee of Claims, to whom was recommitted the bill for the relief of James Morrison, of Lexington, Kentucky, with instructions to make a special report of the facts, submit the following

## REPORT:

Colonel Morrison was appointed a Deputy Quartermaster, September 18, 1812, and authorized to draw on the Department of War for the supplies and transportation necessary for the northwestern army, under General Harrison. (See document marked by committee, No. 1.)

On 29th October, 1812, the Secretary of War acknowledged the receipt of a communication from Morrison; and informed him that \$ 400,000 of specie had been sent to Ohio and Kentucky for Quartermaster's department. (Document No. 2.)

Early in November, 1812, Morrison repaired to Franklinton, Ohio, then the head quarters of that army, and did not return to Lexington until the following May. On leaving Lexington, he left Thomas H. Pindall, then a private citizen, in possession, with full control, of all the funds of the United States then in the power of Morrison, except some in the hands of Major Bryson, at Newport; from which time until the following April, Pindall transacted the business of the office at Lexington, in the name of Morrison. (R. Scott's 2d affidavit, No. 3.)

On 24th November, 1812, Morrison wrote to Pindall, informing him that the banks of Frankfort and Cincinnati would receive his (Morrison's) draughts for \$ 200,000; and giving instructions to Pindall how to dispose of a portion of that sum. (Document No. 4.)

On 27th November, 1812, at Franklinton, General Harrison issued an order declaring that the said Thomas H. Pindall (among others) was thereby appointed an Assistant Deputy Quartermaster.

A copy of this order was transmitted by Colonel Morrison to Major Pindall, with a letter subjoined, informing him that he must give bond, and take an oath of office; and enclosing him a bond and certificate of oath, to be executed by Pindall and returned to Morrison. (Document No. 5.)

The next day, 28th November, 1812, the bank of Kentucky informed Pindall that \$ 200,000 had been ordered from Philadelphia to that bank, with instructions from the Secretary of War to buy Col.

Morrison's draughts; and that his official bills would be received for the money.

It does not appear when Pindall received his appointment, bond, &c. sent by Morrison; but it appears that Pindall continued to act in Morrison's name as he had done theretofore, and sold to the Bank of Kentucky a draught of Morrison for \$ 129,552 45, dated Lexington, 8th December, 1812; and obtained a credit in bank, under date 14th December, 1812. (Document No. 6, and No. 4.)

It also appears, that, prior to this period, he had, by order of Morrison, *advanced* money to Lieutenant Colonel M'Millan, and Lieutenant Hawkins. (Pindall's first affidavit, No. 7.)

On 20th December, 1812, Pindall directed a letter to Morrison, stating the urgent necessities of Colonel Buford, as Deputy Commissary, for money to make purchases for the army.

On 21st December, 1812, without waiting for an order or reply from Morrison, he lent \$ 10,000 to Buford out of the sum credited to him in bank, under an assurance that it should "be returned in a few days;" and considering it a loan to be returned so soon, he thought it unnecessary to take a receipt in form of a voucher; and, therefore, took the paper No. 8. (Pindall's first affidavit, No. 7.)

The money was not refunded by Buford.

And, on 31st December, 1812, Pindall, with Robert Scott, the clerk of Colonel Morrison, executed the bond of \$ 500 penalty, marked No. 9, and, on the same day, took the oath of office as Assistant Deputy Quartermaster.

From which facts the committee infer,

1st. That the money in question was originally intrusted to Pindall by Morrison, in Pindall's private character of agent for Morrison; and not as an officer of the government.

2d. That Pindall's continuing in possession and control of the funds, was not made to depend upon his assuming an official character; but was absolutely permitted by Morrison; and

3d. That the \$ 10,000 were *loaned* to Buford by Pindall, before he became authorized to act as an Assistant Deputy Quartermaster, which does not appear to have taken place until some days after the loan.